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the two Virginias have passed upon, seems to have been overlooked. An examination of each volume evinces that the work is, as it claims to be, encyclopedic not only in name but in reality. The learned editor is to be congratulated upon having added to the working literature of the profession a work which is complete, accurate, thorough, carefully considered and of invaluable assistance to those desiring to find the law of the two states in a ready and quick manner.

D, Jr.

The American and English Annotated Cases, containing the important cases selected from the current American, Canadian and English Reports. Thoroughly annotated. Edited by Wm. McKinney, David S. Garland and H. Noyes Greene. Vol. 6. Edward Thompson Company. Northport, L. I. New York. 1907. Price, \$5.

The sixth volume of this admirable series of reported cases, well sustains the high standard set in previous volumes. The selection of cases is well made; the annotation most excellently done and the succinctness with which propositions are stated does not allow clearness or fullness of statement to suffer.

In the present volume a cumulative index of the notes in the six volumes issued is placed at the close of the volume. A similar index is promised in each succeeding volume. Each volume, therefore, will allow the subscriber by examining one index to refer back to the preceding volumes. This adds no little to the value and completeness of the work.

A Treatise on Electric Law, comprising the law governing all electric corporations, uses and appliances, also all relative public and private rights. Second Edition, in Two Volumes. By Joseph A. and Howard C. Joyce. The Banks Law Publishing Co. New York. 1907. Price, \$12.75.

It is hard for the average lawyer of twenty-five years standing to realize the changes which have necessitated the application of fundamental doctrines of law and equity to new subjects. Equally hard for him to realize the number of cases which have gone up to the Courts of Last Resort involving the settlement of questions arising from the use of new appliances which are today a part and parcel of every day life. Cases involving the use of electricity were wellnigh unheard of a quarter of a century ago, and yet today electric railways, lighting, power, and heating, the telephone, the automobile, are with us and are a constant and fruitful source of litigation. Seven years ago the Messrs. Joyce issued a volume on Electric Law. It presented to the profession in a clear and logical way, the law on the subject of electricity with reasons for its application. The authors were bold enough to give their own opinions, as well as adjudicated cases, and the work stating principles sustained by authority, and citing nearly every case upon the subject, rapidly found its way into the favor of the profession. Since that edition was exhausted the growth of litigation has produced a growth of authorities and the present work in two volumes has been found necessary. Whilst following the plan of the former work, it has been largely added to. Two thousand new cases—all of which have been critically examined—are cited. Four hundred new sections are added, and the work now presents in the most exhaustive way the law upon every point relative to electric corporations, the uses and appliances of electricity and the public and private rights therewith connected.

The work has been well done. It is original, bold whilst con-

servative, giving a sound reason for the authors' propositions when stated, and citing authorities in a clear concise way. The lawyer who possesses it can depend upon its statements as carefully made and cannot fail to find all the law up to date, stated and arranged in a way to make the way of the searcher easy, and the determination of vexed questions on the subject much simpler of solution.

Select Essays in Anglo-American Legal History. By various authors. Compiled and edited by a committee of the Association of American Law Schools. In three volumes. Vol. 1. Little Brown and Company. Boston. 1907. Price for the three volumes, \$12 net, delivered.

The amount of learning buried in the periodicals of the last quarter of a century can hardly be estimated. Scattered through serial journals, of which few are preserved save in the public libraries, no matter how important the subject or how able the author—unless presented in some more permanent shape—much of the best work of our time is ephemeral and soon forgotten. In no branch of learning is this more the case than in the history of the various branches of the law. Recognizing this fact the Association of American Law Schools in 1905 and 1906 determined to rescue from "the oblivion of the shelves" those essays and treatises of permanent value bearing upon the structure of English and American Legal History. The committee appointed to make the selection and prepare the volumes was composed of Professor Ernest Freund of the University of Chicago, Wm. E. Mikell of the University of Pennsylvania, and John H. Wigmore of Northwestern University. The first volume of their selection is now before us and if those which succeed it are of equal merit, they have rendered a service to the cause of Law and Letters alike, hard to be overestimated.

The essays collected in the book fall under the head of "General Surveys" and are grouped under five heads: 1, "Before the Norman Conquest;" 2, "From the Norman Conquest to the Eighteenth Century;" 3, "The American Colonial Period;" 4, "Expansion and Reform of the Law in the Nineteenth Century;" 5, "Bench and Bar from Norman Times to the Nineteenth Century." Essays by Fred. Wm. Maitland, Sir Frederick Pollock, Bart.; Mr. John Richard Green, James Brice, Judge J. F. Dillon, Edward Jenks, Baron Bowen and others, reprinted from periodicals of note, or extracted from larger volumes, are given in this work. Each—no matter who the author—is well worthy of perusal and preservation. The grouping of cognate subjects gives the work the distinct value of unity, and one can read the volume with an interest which grows with the perusal of each essay.

No subject seems to be more neglected in our law schools than Legal History. Its relationship to general history—the influence of law upon politics—politics upon the law—the silent and gradual effect of the development of a nation upon jurisprudence—the economic and social conditions reflected by the laws of a country—the intellectual forces called into action by the shifting of men's relations with one another—and the development of law to meet each new relation—these are subjects which invite the careful attention of every student of the law, and their study should have its place in every law school. No better nor more interesting volume, we can safely assert, can be found for students, whether of early or mature years, than this, and to all interested in the literature of law, whether they be of the profession or not, we can commend it as both pleasant, learned and instructive.